

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☒
no ☐

Property Name: Montebello Park
(Montebello Raw Water Distribution Center) Inventory Number: B-1375

Address: Lake Montebello Drive City: Baltimore Zip Code:

County: N/A USGS Topographic Map: Baltimore East

Owner: Baltimore City Department of Public Works

Tax Parcel Number: Tax Map Number: Tax Account ID Number:

Project: Harford Road Bridge over Herring Run Agency: City of Baltimore Department of Transportation

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: Date:

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☒ None

Is the property located within a historic district? ☒ no ☐ yes Name of district:

Is district listed? ☐ no ☐ yes Determined eligible? ☐ no ☐ yes District Inventory Number:

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

Summary Description

Montebello Park lies between Harford Road and Hillen Road in Baltimore City. This picturesque setting is characterized by open land with occasional pine trees. A paved pedestrian area and a shrub-lined fence surround the lake. A residential area of late nineteenth and early twentieth century houses is located southeast of the lake. The buildings of the Montebello Raw Water Distribution Center are located on gently sloping hills northwest of the lake and include water filtration facilities. The numerous buildings contained in the complex are accessed from Hillen Road and line the east and west sides of the street. The complex is surrounded by metal fencing and overseen by security personnel. Interior access to the multi-building complex was not possible due to the high security related to the municipal water system. Survey of the complex was completed from the public right of way beyond the security fence.

The complex features expansive red brick buildings constructed in the early twentieth century Italian Renaissance style. These buildings exhibit many of the distinguishing characteristics of the style, including hipped roofs sheathed in ceramic tiles, eave brackets, square towers with pyramidal roofs, a combination of elaborate arched windows and smaller rectangular windows, decorative brickwork such as recessed arched panels, and stone trim.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: <u>240 ACRES WITHIN BOUNDARY OF NR-ELIGIBLE RESOURCE</u>	
<u>Shirley J. [Signature]</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>3/4/04</u> ✓ Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR program	<u>3/5/04</u> Date

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**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
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Continuation Sheet No. 1

B-1375

Newer buildings constructed within the complex are compatible with the older buildings. A group of these buildings stands on the lake-side of the property. They feature hipped roofs sheathed in green standing-seam metal, hipped dormers, square window openings, and concrete trim. A large concrete basin is located southwest of the buildings.

A two-story, gable-roofed stone house is located on the east side of Hillen Road within the complex boundaries. This house has a center gable peak, an interior brick chimney on each gable end, and a full-width front porch. A two-story section extends off the rear elevation. A stone outbuilding stands behind the house.

The Montebello Lake Gatehouse also stands on the property of the Montebello Raw Water Distribution Center. This one-story, rusticated-stone, hexagonal building faces the lake. "Montebello Lake 1880" is inscribed on the front elevation. The gatehouse has a flat roof topped by a steep pyramidal structure sheathed in patterned slate. A cupola sits upon the pyramid. Recessed windows with pointed stone hoods occur on all elevations. Stone dentils decorate the window recesses and the cornice. A one-story rectangular block extends off the rear elevation.

Summary History

Montebello Park encompasses a man-made reservoir and water filtration plant that was constructed as part of the City of Baltimore water system. Efforts to develop a city-wide water system date to 1804 when the Mayor and City Council initiated the construction of a municipal water system. The Baltimore Water Company was established in 1804 and the Jones Falls waterworks was completed by 1807. While the system was augmented over the years, the drought of 1872 proved that the existing system was insufficient to meet the city's needs. Baltimore's water board authorized civil engineer, Robert K. Martin to prepare surveys and plans to secure water from the Gunpowder River to augment the city's water supply. In 1874, the water board issued \$4,000,000 in stock to finance the public works project and proceeded with land acquisition and construction in 1875. The project included the construction of the Loch Raven dam and reservoir, a gate house that served as the point of origination for the supply tunnel, a seven-mile brick supply tunnel measuring 12-feet in diameter, and the Lake Montebello receiving reservoir. Forty-inch water mains carried water from the gate house at Lake Montebello to the city's northern limit at North Avenue. The project was completed in 1881 (Hall 1912:417).

Lake Montebello was created by damming Tiffany's Run, which was a tributary of Herring Run. The reservoir measures one and one-half miles in circumference. The lake served as a receiving reservoir from its construction until 1914. In 1914, the reservoir was used to supply water for the filter beds at the Montebello Filtration Plant. This plant was constructed in 1915 and expanded in the 1920s. The plant has been improved over the years. The complex currently incorporates the lake, filter building (1915), and associated 1920s improvements. In addition, the complex incorporates the stone cross-gable dwelling and stables that were originally part of the Brodie family estate, Union Grove. These buildings were adapted for use in the public works complex (Mayfield/Montebello).

Comparative Resources

An overview search of the National Register files identified listings for six municipal water systems. These resources include the National Landmark, Washington Aqueduct (listed 1973); the San Buenaventura Mission Aqueduct, Ventura, California (listed 1975); the National Landmark, Fairmount Water Works, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (listed 1976); the Crofton Aqueduct System, New York City (listed 1992); the Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston, Massachusetts (listed 1990), and the Chicago Water Works System, Chicago, Illinois (listed 1975). These resources span the period 1782 (San Buenaventura Mission Aqueduct) to 1926 (Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston) and encompass a full range of engineering structures, buildings, and associated landscapes.

Water systems were an essential part of community infrastructure after 1880. Between 1880 and 1896, 2,774 new water distribution systems were constructed in the United States. By 1900, the majority of communities with populations over 2,000 maintained water collection and distribution systems (Turneure and Russell 1924:9).

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Continuation Sheet No. 2

B-1375

Evaluation

Montebello Park possesses the qualities of integrity and local significance defined in the National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of engineering and architecture during the period ca. 1875 to ca. 1930. The complex is associated with the historical development of the Baltimore City municipal water system. The period buildings contained within the site are examples of well designed, public works architecture that house the water distribution and filtration process.

REFERENCES

Armstrong, Ellis L. ed.

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1974 National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, San Buenaventura Mission Aqueduct, California. Unpublished. On file with the National Register of Historic Places.

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1989 National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Water Supply System of Metropolitan Boston. Unpublished. On file with the National Register of Historic Places.

Kehoe, Susan and John Hern

1975 National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Chicago Avenue Water Tower and Pumping Station, Chicago, Illinois. Unpublished. On file with the National Register of Historic Places.

Lange, Robie S.

1991 National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Croton Aqueduct, New York. Unpublished. On file with the National Register of Historic Places.

Levy, Ben and Paul Ghioto

1973 National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Washington Aqueduct, Washington D.C. Unpublished. On file with the National Register of Historic Places.

Mayfield/Montebello

2002 Available at www.ci.baltimore.md.us/neighborhoods/northeast/maymont.html. Viewed January 2004.

Turneure, Dr. F.E. and H.L. Russell, Ph.D.

1924 Public Water Supplies: Requirements, Resources, and the Construction of Works. 3rd ed. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York.

Prepared by: R. Christopher Goodwin &
Associates, Inc.

Date Prepared: January 28, 2004

B-1375

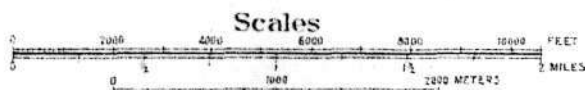
Montebello Park

Baltimore City, MD

Map from Olmsted Brothers 1904 Report Upon the Development of Public Grounds for Greater Baltimore. Prepared for the City of Baltimore.





MAP OF THE CITY OF
BALTIMORE
AND A PORTION OF
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD.
SHOWING
EXISTING AND PROPOSED PARK LANDS




OLMSTED BROTHERS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS.
BROOKLINE, MASS., 1903.

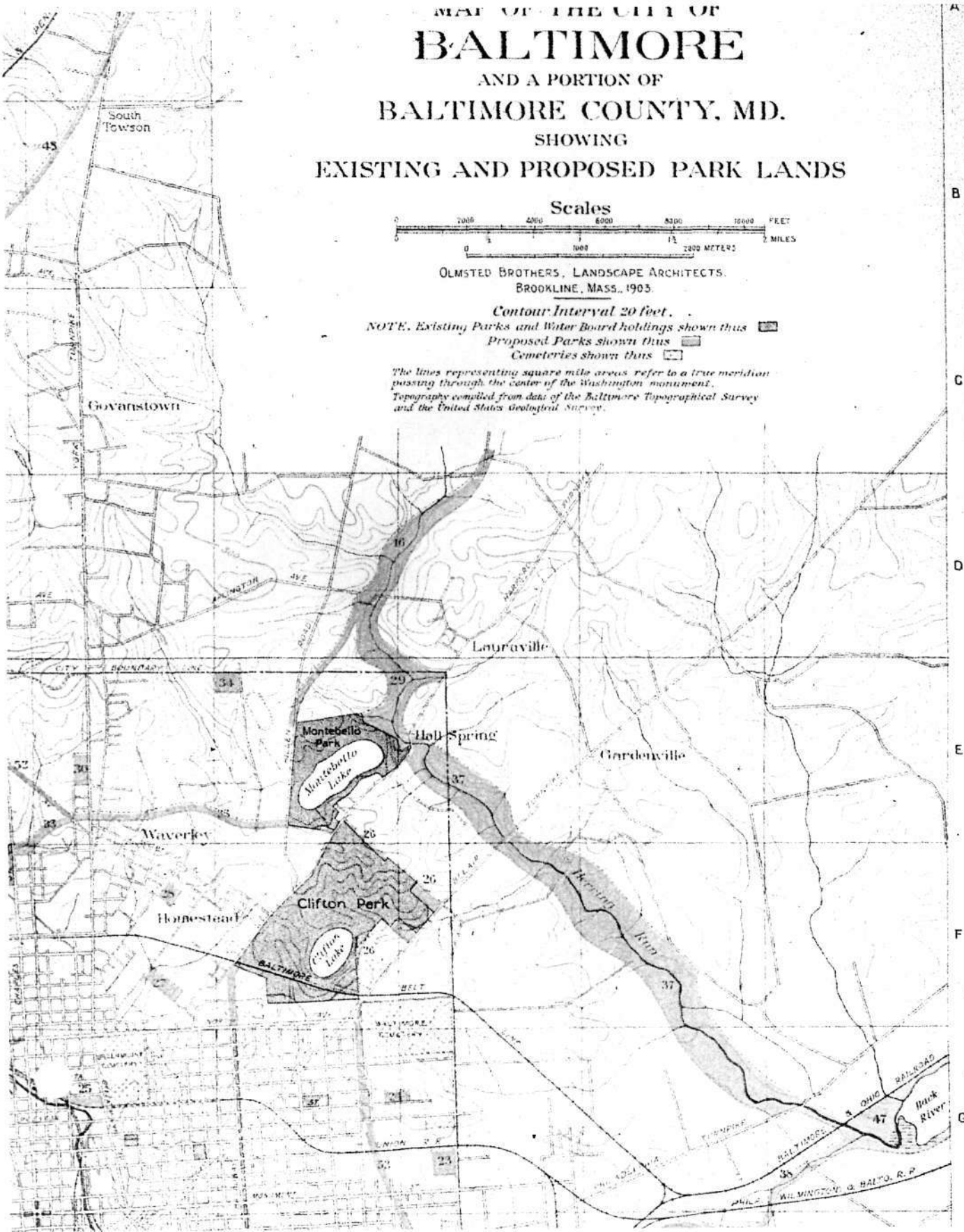
Contour Interval 20 feet.

NOTE. Existing Parks and Water Board holdings shown thus 

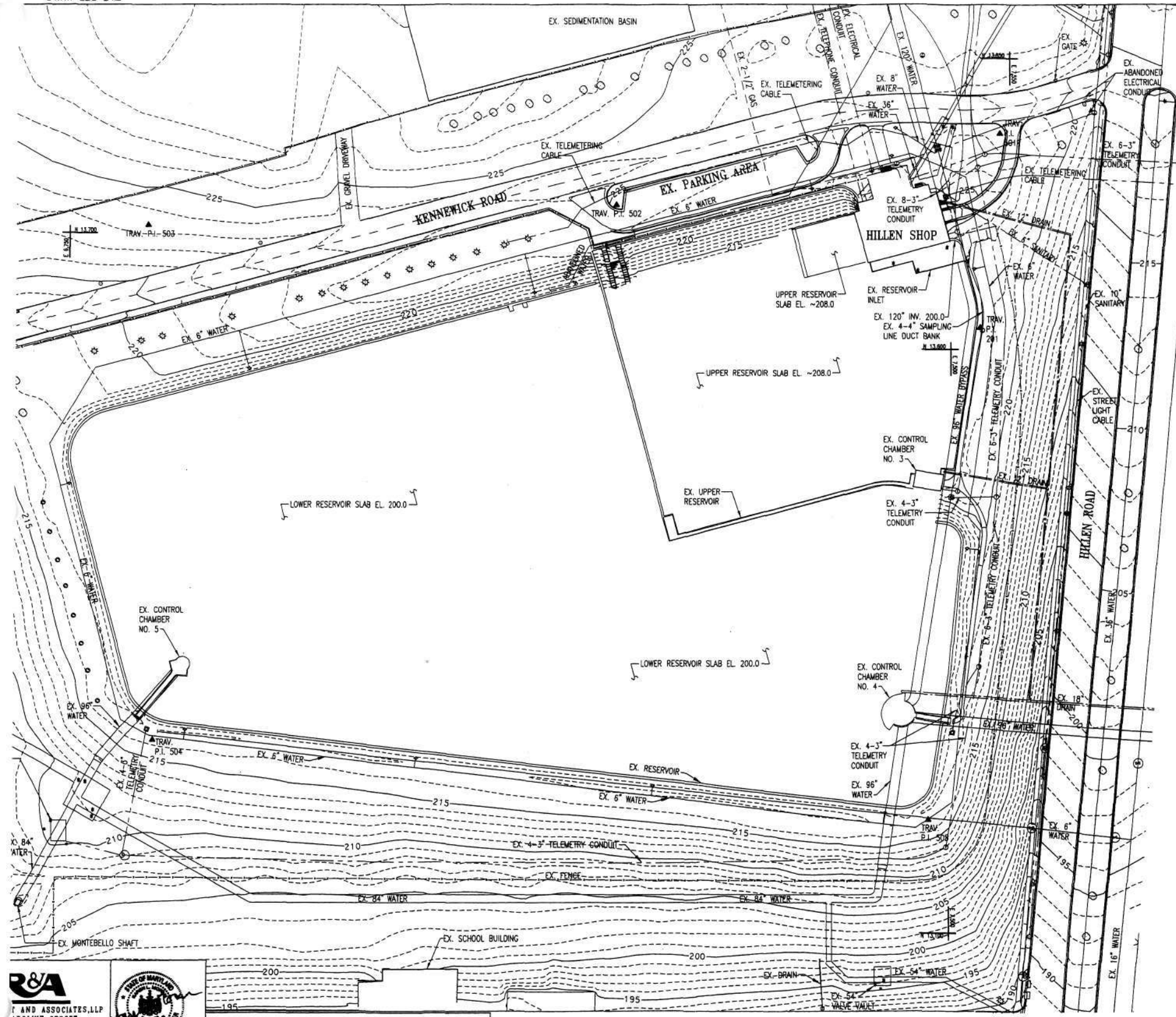
Proposed Parks shown thus 

Cemeteries shown thus 

The lines representing square mile areas refer to a true meridian passing through the center of the Washington monument.
Topography compiled from data of the Baltimore Topographical Survey and the United States Geological Survey.



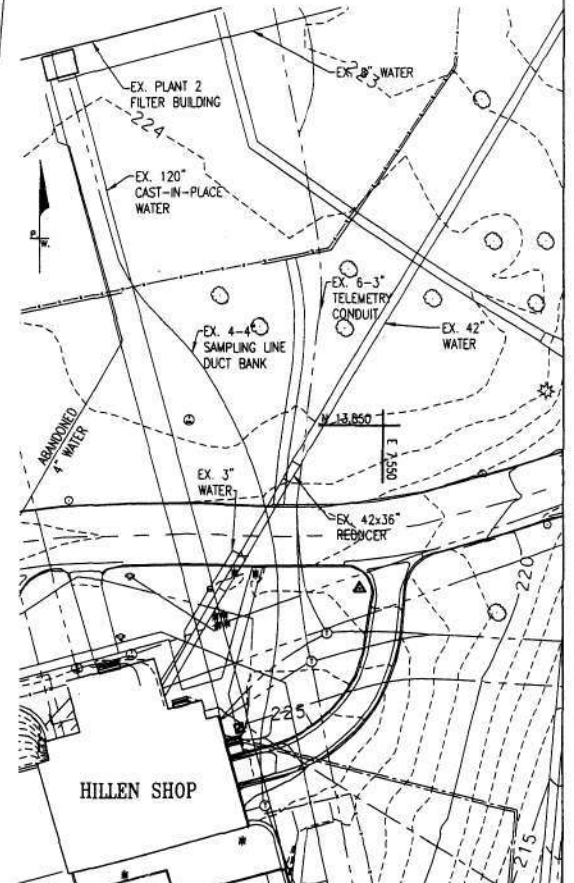
FILE REF. W.W.D.



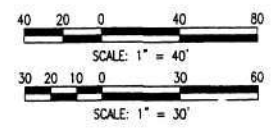
REVISIONS			
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY

NOTES
B-1375

1. PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION: BLOCK - 3970F, LOT - 001.



ENLARGED PLAN - NE CORNER
SCALE: 1" = 30'



CITY OF BALTIMORE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUREAU OF WATER AND WASTEWATER
WATER AND WASTEWATER ENGINEERING DIVISION

WATER CONTRACT NO. 1160
MONTEBELLO PLANT 2
FINISHED WATER RESERVOIR COVER

EXISTING SITE

SCALE: 1" = 40' DATE: JUNE 22, 2007
DRAWING: C-34 SHEET 37 OF 177

R&A
AND ASSOCIATES, LLP
AROLINE STREET
B, MARYLAND
2105 - 3450

STATE OF MARYLAND
Professional Engineer
License No. 24514
Expiration Date 11/15/07

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION. I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE DOCUMENTS WERE PREPARED OR APPROVED BY ME, AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, LICENSE NO. 24514, EXPIRATION DATE 11/15/07.

PLAN
SCALE: 1" = 40'

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Montebello Park
Baltimore City, MD
Baltimore East USGS Quad
1953 PR 1974
1:24,000



B-1375
 Montebello Park
 Baltimore City, MD
 Baltimore East USGS Quad
 1953 PR 1974
 1:24,000
 PHOTO KEY



MONTEBELLO PARK:
MONTEBELLO RAW WATER DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Photo Log

The following information is the same for each photograph:

1. MIHP # B-1375
2. Montebello Park: Montebello Raw Water Distribution Center
3. Baltimore City, Maryland
4. R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.
5. January 2004
6. Digital photographs, no negatives

Photo #

1. View NW across lake
2. Main building W of Hillen Road, view SW
3. Main building W of Hillen Road, view NW
4. Secondary building W of Hillen Road, view SW
5. Buildings E of Hillen Road thru front gate, view E
6. Buildings E of Hillen Road, view E
7. Buildings E of Hillen Road, view SE
8. Building SW of Montebello Lake Gatehouse, view N
9. Newer buildings, view NW
10. Concrete basin, view NW
11. Stone house, view NE
12. Montebello Lake Gatehouse, view W

B-1375



B-1375



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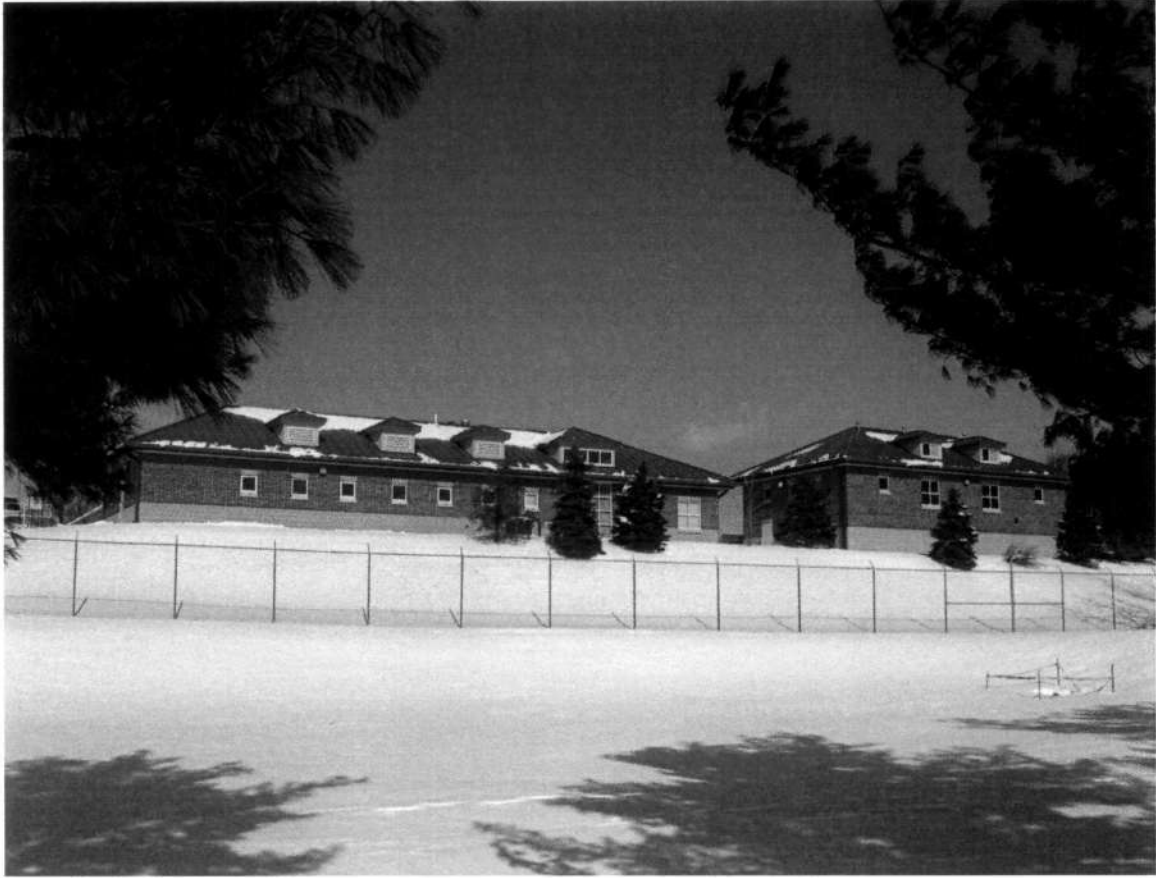
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